

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

February 24, 2014

5:30 p.m.

Courthouse

MINUTES:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Robert Peay
Commissioner Jeff Phillips
Commissioner Tiffany Phillips
Commissioner Doug Shafer
Commissioner Robert Stevens
Commissioner Matt Young
Commissioner Gary Farley, C

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ernest Burgess	Jeff Davidson
Michael Kusch	Randy White
Larry Farley	Lynn Duke
Michael Gregory	Dan Goode
Phil Griffin	Jack Black
Bernard Salandy	Joe Russell
Mike Nunley	Robert Arnold
Tharrel Kast	Sean Huber

Hope Tenpenny, Terry Cunningham, Monique Tillage, Mary Fugett, Karla Moore, Raigan Sweeney, Becky Shelton

Chairman Farley presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all members being present at that time.

MINUTES:

"Commissioner T. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, to approve the minutes of the last meeting. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

OSHA REPORT:

Dan Goode presented the OSHA report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner Shafer, to approve the OSHA report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

AMBULANCE SERVICE REPORT:

Randy White presented the Ambulance Service report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Shafer moved, seconded by Commissioner J. Phillips, to approve the Ambulance Service report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

The Committee was reminded of Commissioner Shafer's prior inquiry about the Yellow Dot program. Terry Cunningham of the Ambulance Service provided a copy of the legislation establishing the Yellow Dot program and information explaining the same. Ms. Cunningham advised the program requires a photograph of the person to be attached to the medical information to be put in the glove box of a car and to be able to assist with this program she would need a portable printer at approximately \$250 to \$280 to get 4x6 photos of citizens. Ms. Cunningham advised she could take the printer to community events and take photos on her phone to have printed on site and provide to citizens. The packets from the State are free but they want to get them to seniors first and then to people with medical issues. There is a waiting list to receive the free packets from the State. Trustpoint Hospital already has packets and is participating in the program. The program provides good information to responders in case the citizen is unable to communicate. Commissioner Farley advised the program is a benefit to public safety agencies. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Shafer moved, seconded by Commissioner J. Phillips, to approve the concept and support the Yellow Dot program and implementation in Rutherford County. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

DRUG COURT REPORT:

No Drug Court report was presented.

JUVENILE DETENTION REPORT:

Lynn Duke presented the Juvenile Detention report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner J. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Young, to approve the Juvenile Detention report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Ms. Duke next presented a proposed budget amendment to fund necessary upgrades to the Commander system.

From: 101-54240-338 M&R Vehicles -	\$ 4,000
From: 101-54240-399 Other Contracted Services -	\$10,000
From: 101-54240-499 Other Supplies & Materials -	\$ 2,000
To: 101-54240-790 Other Equipment -	\$16,000

"Commissioner J. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Shafer, to approve the budget transfer for Juvenile Detention as requested. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Joe Russell presented proposed budget amendments as follows:

To: 101-49700 Ins. Recovery -	\$ 6,670
To: 54110-718 New Vehicles -	\$ 6,670
From: 54210-790 Other Equip -	\$ 8,000
To: 54210-196 Detn. Inservice -	\$ 8,000
To: 101-44570 Donations -	\$ 2,074
To: 54110-499 Other Supplies -	\$ 805
To: 54110-399 Other Contracts -	\$ 370
To: 54110-599 Other Chrgs -	\$ 850
To: 54210-499 Other Supplies -	\$ 49
To: 101-44570 K9 Donations -	\$ 2,331
To: 54110-357 Vet Services -	\$ 1,331
To: 54110-401 Animal Supplies -	\$ 1,000
To: 101-44130 Sale of Material -	\$ 917
To: 54110-435 Office Supplies -	\$ 570
To: 54110-349 Printing -	\$ 110
To: 54210-499 Other Supplies -	\$ 237
To: 101-44145 Sale/Recy.Mat. -	\$ 3,700
To: 54210-499 Other Supplies -	\$ 603
To: 54110-307 Communication -	\$ 3,097
From: 54210-399 Other Cont. Serv. -	\$49,930
To: 54210-187 Detn OT -	\$33,170
To: 54210-201 Social Security -	\$ 2,060
To: 54210-204 State Retirement -	\$ 4,210
To: 54210-212 Emp. Medicare -	\$ 490
To: 54210-435 Detn Off. Supplies -	\$10,000

"Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner T. Phillips, to approve the budget transfers for the Sheriff's Department as requested. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

The Committee was advised the budget amendment recognizing revenue from GHSO (Alcohol Management) Grant was being tabled at this time. Sheriff Arnold provided the line item report with commendations for the use and information of the Committee.

"Commissioner J. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Peay, to approve the Sheriff's Department report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Commissioner J. Phillips asked about the old uniforms and Sheriff Arnold advised they are going to PAWS, the Fire Department or LaVergne police. Each officer has one or two left.

Sheriff Arnold asked to hold the April 28 Public Safety meeting at the jail to review his budget. Chairman Farley advised the other departments could be done by Consent Agenda and department heads will not have to attend unless they have budget amendments. This will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Commissioner Young advised he would like to see money in the upcoming budget for one 911 call location.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPORT & BUDGET:

Monique Tillage presented the Domestic Violence report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner J. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner T. Phillips, to approve the Domestic Violence report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Ms. Tillage next presented her proposed 14/15 budget for consideration advising it is \$3,700 more than the prior budget. This department is self-supporting from offender fees and its reserve is increasing. Following discussion,

"Commissioner J. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner T. Phillips, to approve the Domestic Violence 14/15 budget and forward the same to the Budget Committee. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

PAWS REPORT:

Michael Gregory presented the PAWS report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner T. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, to approve the PAWS report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Mr. Gregory next presented his proposed 14/15 budget advising it is \$19,000 over last year due mainly to insurance costs.

Mr. Gregory advised he was asking to reclassify two vacant positions. One to training and one to administrative assistant. Since the positions are vacant, Mr. Gregory advised if the title changes are approved he wanted to make these hires immediately as it does not impact the budgets. Mayor Burgess agreed with the title changes.

"Commissioner T. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner J. Phillips, to approve the reclassification of two positions. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Mr. Gregory advised in the 14/15 budget he is asking LaVergne for a contribution but he did not include that in the revenue as LaVergne has made no contribution for the last two years. Approximately 15% of calls last year were from LaVergne. Commissioner Shafer advised LaVergne does not think it is being treated fairly. Commissioner Young advised it is double taxation since they pay County taxes and City taxes. Commissioner Shafer advised there is no State requirement to have animal control. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Young moved, seconded by Commissioner J. Phillips, to approve the PAWS 14/15 budget as presented. This motion passed with Commissioners J. Phillips, T. Phillips, Stevens, Young and Farley voting "yes" and Commissioner Peay and Shafer voting "no".

The "no" votes were from members of the Budget Committee and were asked if for a reason or they had more questions. Commissioner Shafer advised there was a capital plan attached with expenditures in 14/15 and he did not know where they were in the budget presented. Mr. Gregory advised which line items the capital expenses were in.

CORRECTIONAL WORK CENTER REPORT:

Bernard Salandy presented the Correctional Work Center report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Stevens moved, seconded by Commissioner Peay, to approve the Correctional Work Center report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Mr. Salandy next presented his proposed 14/15 budget with a \$122,000 increase over last year due mainly to step raises and insurance. Commissioner Stevens asked if the Correctional Work Center needed a Board of Directors as this cost could be avoided. Mayor Burgess advised the Board has been a benefit. Commissioner Young advised the Board has experience and value to offer. Commissioner Stevens advised with an increase of \$120,000 the department needs to look for cuts and the Board could help without getting paid. Commissioner Young advised if Boards are going to be cut then the County can cut the Planning Commission, Beer Board, etc. Commissioner Stevens advised the State has eliminated some Boards and streamlined and saved money. Commissioner Shafer advised the State passes costs on to the County. Commissioner J. Phillips advised government is going to have to look at issues and make changes like the public sector. Following discussion,

"Commissioner J. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Peay, to forward the Correctional Work Center budget as is to the Budget Committee. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY REPORT:

Tharrel Kast presented the Emergency Management Agency report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner T. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, to approve the Emergency Management Agency report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Mr. Kast next presented his proposed 14/15 budget for consideration advising there is a 6% overall reduction from last year due to cutting one time items in the current budget. Electrical costs on the communication towers and vehicle maintenance are increased.

"Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner J. Phillips, to forward the Emergency Management Agency 14/15 budget to the Budget Committee with a positive recommendation. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

COUNTY FIRE/RESCUE REPORT:

Larry Farley presented the County Fire/Rescue report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Shafer moved, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, to approve the County Fire/Rescue report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Mr. Farley next presented his proposed 14/15 budget advising it was an increase of \$840,000 but the grant for firefighters has been received and will cover that cost for two years. The budget does include a vehicle. The Committee was advised fire calls are increasing and the department is running medical calls. Grants have been used over the last four years to improve equipment. There were 1443 calls in 2011; 1998 calls in 2012 and 2170 calls in 2013. The twelve paid firefighters are to compliment the volunteer system by manning the stations around the clock which helps decrease the ISO rating. The Committee was advised the budget is funded through sales tax revenue and no property tax goes to this department. The Development Tax is used to buy trucks.

Commissioner Young advised he had concerns and wanted a strategic plan and capital outlay plan.

Commissioner T. Phillips advised she was against the grant and adding personnel just because the County got the grant. This adds employees and is putting the burden on future Commissioners to find a way to fund the positions. Chairman Farley advised the Christiana/Fosterville area will be impacted the most by staffed fire halls because volunteers in her area are working and cannot respond to fires. Commissioner Young advised he had concerns on recruitment and retention in the future and wanted to see data on why the volunteers are leaving. Chief Farley advised life happens, volunteers age, marry and have kids. Commissioner Stevens advised he had concerns on using grant money for paid positions and advised the County could reform health insurance to save money and eliminate the retirement plan for new hires and do a 401K instead. Additionally, spouses could be cut off from the health insurance if they have the opportunity to get insurance through their workplace. By reforming the health insurance benefit plan the County could find money for Fire Department employees and help balance the budget. Commissioner Stevens advised he could not support "free money" and did not think the Commission will vote to lay off twelve firefighters in the future and the Commission needed to look in-house to fund. Commissioner Young advised it is cut and dry where the money can come from to fund the Fire Department and the County would have to cut solid waste which includes the Smyrna convenience centers. The County could sell the landfill to fund the fire service. Commissioner Young advised the cuts Commissioner Stevens proposed would go to the General fund and could not fund firefighting. Mayor Burgess confirmed Commissioner Young's statement on funding was correct. Commissioner Peay advised the paid firefighters would save on the ISO rating and would more than make up for the expense. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner Shafer, to approve the Fire/Rescue Department budget and forward the same to the Budget Committee. This motion passed with Commissioners Peay, J. Phillips, Shafer and Farley voting "yes" and Commissioners T. Phillips, Stevens and Young voting "no"."

Commissioner Young advised the County could have gotten the paid firefighter positions instead of the SORT Team years ago and if the SORT Team was consolidated with the Fire Department it would make sense to put it under Chief Farley. Chairman Farley advised Bedford, Hardin, Bradley and Roane Counties have their own fire departments. Rutherford County is one of the fastest growing counties and is fifteen to twenty years behind the times. Chief Farley advised the values of homes have gone up all over Rutherford County.

Chief Farley next presented a proposed budget amendment recognizing monies awarded from Homeland Security through the American Firefighter's Grant which can be spent this fiscal year.

To:	101-47990 Other Direct Federal Rev -	\$154,825
To:	101-54320-189 Other Salary & Wages -	\$102,650
To:	101-54320-201 Social Security -	\$ 6,365
To:	101-54320-204 State Retirement -	\$ 13,030
To:	101-54320-205 Employee & Dependent Ins -	\$ 31,000
To:	101-54320-209 Disability Insurance -	\$ 190
To:	101-54320-212 Employer Medicare -	\$ 1,490

"Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner Shafer, to approve the budget transfer for the County Fire Department as presented. This motion passed by roll call vote with Commissioners Peay, J. Phillips, Shafer and Farley voting "yes", Commissioners T. Phillips and Stevens voting "no" and Commissioner Young abstaining."

There appearing to be no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Farley declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

GARY FARLEY, Chairman